

Projected gas output from KG basin

2234. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Reliance Industries Limited led consortium obtained Government approval to make capital expenditures of USD 2470 millions to develop the KG basin D6 gas discovery;

(b) if so, what was the confirmed gas output per day at the time of approval;

(c) whether the said consortium have recently approached Government for fake increased capital investment in the same fields and if so, the details thereof and what is the projected gas output indicated therein; and

(d) whether the said projection has not even been certified by the DGH and other international experts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Management Committee has approved the development plan for Dhirubhai 1 & 3 in the KG basin. The plan envisages a plateau production of 40 MMSCMD gas with an expenditure of US\$ 2.47 billion.

(c) and (d) The consortium of the block has submitted addendum to the development plan to increase the production from 40 MMSCMD to 80 MMSCMD, with an increase in expenditure from US\$ to 8.84 Billion.

Strike of retail outlets in Mumbai

2235. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that owners of petrol pumps (retail outlets) had threatened to go on indefinite strike in Mumbai on 13th September, 2006;

(b) whether strike was called off after Government gave some assurance to petrol pump owners; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken to implement the assurance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) The Federation of All Maharashtra Petrol Dealer's Association (FAMPEDA) had given a call for indefinite "No Purchase" Agitation commencing from the mid night of 17th September, 2006 all over Maharashtra.

(b) It has been informed by State Government of Maharashtra that they have not given any written assurance to FAMPEDA. However, in the interest of public, it had made appeal to the FAMPEDA not to resort to such agitation, so that smooth and sufficient supply of Petrol, Diesel, Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) and Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) is maintained. The strike was called off on 20.9.2006.

(c) Government of Maharashtra has revised the Sales Tax on High Speed Diesel w.e.f. 29/11/2006 from 33% to 28% in Mumbai/Thane and Navi Mumbai areas and from 30% to 25% in the rest of Maharashtra State.

Allocation of kerosene to Gujarat

2236. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intend to increase the allotment of kerosene to Gujarat on the lines of its increase in last two years to the States of Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, by which date, decision on the demand of Gujarat for increasing allocation is being taken; and

(c) alternatively, when will free kerosene for open market be available at reasonable prices to ease out the kerosene problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) In accordance with the policy adopted by the Government of India in 2000, Kerosene (SKO) allocation for distribution under the Public Distribution System (PDS) was reduced every year beginning 2001-02 till 2003-04, taking into account the number of LPG connections released in each State/Union Territory. While the initial allotment for 2004-05 was based on the criteria adopted hitherto, additional allocations were made during the year to meet emergent demand. For the year 2005-06, allocations have been maintained at the level of